NEW SERIES BEGINS

Boku ni Hana no MELANCHOLY

KOMORI MIKKO

ALTHOUGH CONFUSED,

THEY ARE ATTRACTED

TO EACH OTHER

CHAPTER 1

A SECRET, FEVERISH LOVE

"I LOVE YOU BABY" ALL FOUR VOLUMES
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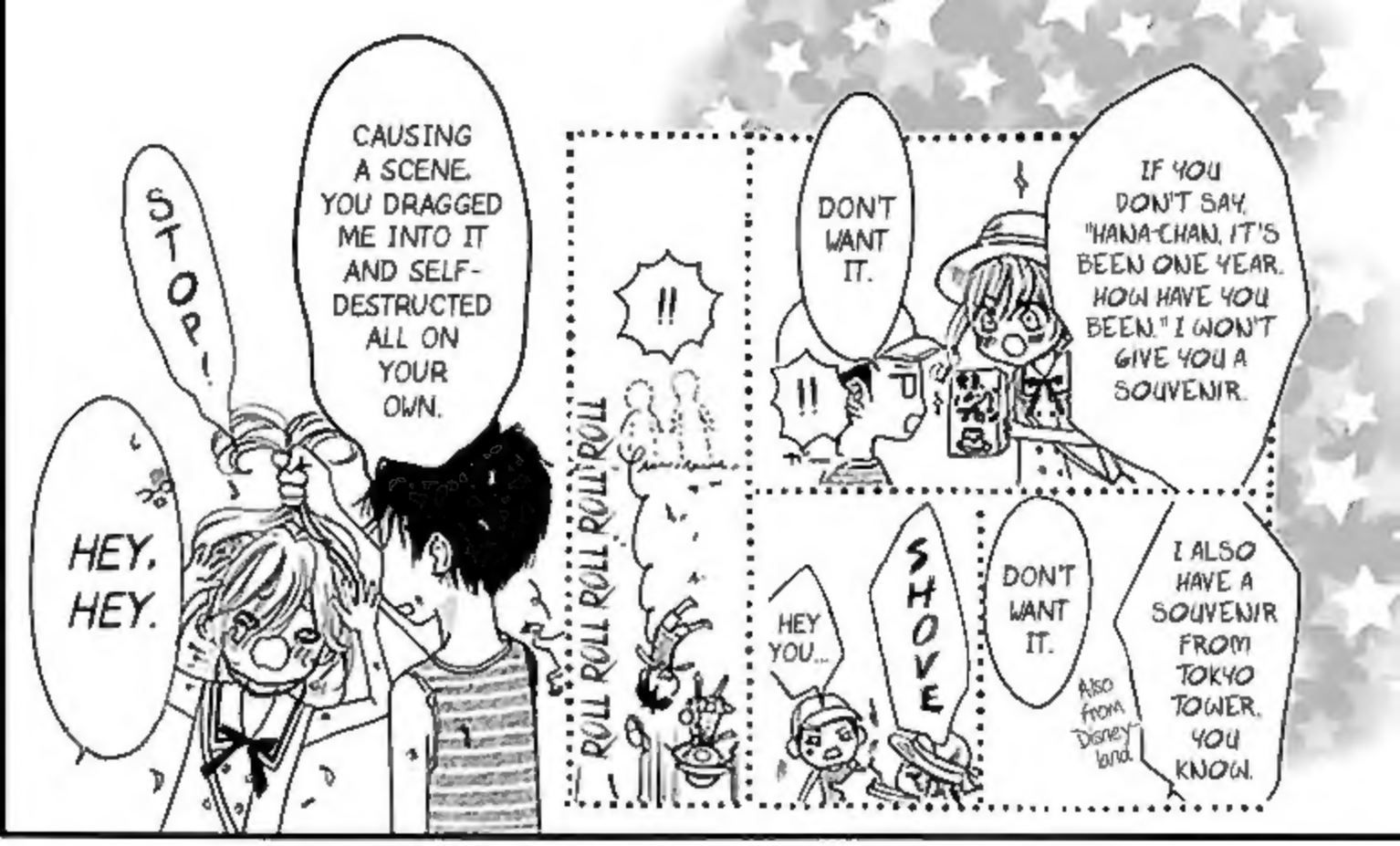
TN: Cicada sounds
Miiiin
Miiiin
YU-
YUZURU KUUUN!
LONG TIME NO SEE!

Mmm
...WHO ARE YOU AGAIN?
bzz bzz bzz
I'M AMEMIYA... HANA...
SHOCK

MESSY
HANA!? YUZURU -KUN!?
WHAT IN THE WORLD WERE YOU DOING ...?
DAD ...
HANA ...
HEEEY, HANA...
IT'S TIME TO GO ...
YUZURU KUN
THIS GIRL
IT'S HIS/HER FAULT.


HEY. HEY.
STOP!
CAUSING A SCENE. YOU DRAGGED ME INTO IT AND SELF-DESTRUCTED ALL ON YOUR OWN.
!!
ROLL ROLL ROLL ROLL
DON'T WANT IT.
!!
IF YOU DON'T SAY, "HANA-CHAN, IT'S BEEN ONE YEAR. HOW HAVE YOU BEEN." I WON'T GIVE YOU A SOUVENIR.
HEY YOU...
SHOVE
DON'T WANT IT.
Also from Disneyland
I ALSO HAVE A SOUVENIR FROM TOKYO TOWER, YOU KNOW.

WELL. LET'S GO. YOU TWO.
IF YOU DON'T GET ALONG. THEN SOMEONE SCARIER THAN ME WILL SCOLD YOU, OKAY...?

CHATTER
CHATTER

Rattle
HELLO
...
...WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
MOTHER!
!!
YUZURU
!!
AMEMIYA -SAN!?
Cough
Cough
WAIT A MIN...
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
Cough
...IT'S BEEN A WHILE. YOU LOOK AS YOUNG AS EVER, AMEMIYA -SAN.
Bump
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT EITHER, SANAE -SAN...
Really
...HANA -CHAN? YOU CAME, HUH...
FLINCH

HELLO
HERE ARE FLOWERS FOR YOU.
!!
WHAT. SHE'S SO CUTE.
GIRLS ARE DEFINITELY NICE... I SHOULD HAVE GIVEN BIRTH TO ONE...
Pink pajamas, one piece dresses...
I'LL GO AND GET SOME WATER...
SUCK UP
...I SEE. IT'S AUGUST... IT'S ALREADY SUMMER VACATION. HUH.
HANA -CHAN. YOU WENT...
...TO VISIT YOUR MOTHER'S GRAVE AGAIN THIS YEAR, RIGHT?

HANA -CHAN. DID YOU TALK TO YOUR MOTHER AT THE GRAVE?
YEP
WILL YOU TELL ME WHAT YOU TALKED ABOUT?
I EAT UP ALL OF THE SCHOOL LUNCH.
I'M IN CHARGE OF TAKING CARE OF RICE FISH...
Well...
I BECAME A FIRST GRADER.
RIGHT NOW I'M PRACTICING HOW TO RIDE A BICYCLE WITH DAD..
How lame.
YOU STILL CAN'T RIDE A BICYLE.
I'LL BE ABLE TO RIDE SOON!
...SAY, HANA -CHAN.
I WANT TO CUDDLE WITH YOU... COME OVER HERE?
PAT PAT
...IS IT OKAY, YUZURU -KUN?
GLANCE
HUH?

FLUFFY
WOW. YOU'VE GOTTEN BIG, HUH...
YOUR SOFT HAIR
AND GENTLE EYES
ARE JUST LIKE YOUR MOTHER'S.
REALLY...?
I'M A CHILDHOOD FRIEND. YOUR MOTHER AND I KNEW EACH OTHER LONGER THAN YOUR FATHER. YOU KNOW...?
AT ANY RATE, YOU TWO SURE PLAYED HARD...
HM?
Poof
Poof

"A LADY BUG IS A SYMBOL OF GOOD LUCK"
SOMETHING GOOD WILL SURELY HAPPEN.
I ALSO LEARNED THIS FROM HANA CHAN'S MOTHER.
"
IT'S A LADY-BUG.
DON'T BUGS LIKE YOU SINCE YOU'RE A 'FLOWER'? ∪.∪
Hehehe
YUZURU, YOU DON'T KNOW?
T/N: HANA MEANS "FLOWER"
Oh!
THE ELASTIC ON YOUR HAT GOT STRETCHED OUT. HUH? I'LL FIX IT FOR YOU
Pouty
That's right
I'LL ATTACH A RABBIT PATCH WHERE THE RIBBON IS
I'LL PUT AN ELASTIC STRAP ON YOUR HAT AS WELL. YUZURU GIVE IT HERE
NO WAY THAT'S LAME. ∪∩
Rattle
HEEEY IT'S TIME TO GO, YOU KNOW
OH, IS IT THAT TIME ALREADY?

...SURE.
THE NEXT TIME I COME,
WILL YOU TALK ABOUT MY MOTHER AGAIN.?
COME VISIT AGAIN WITH YUZURU. OKAY?

I REALLY LIKE YOUR MOM.
Get rid of them
Please look. They're pink mushrooms
IF SHE'S WELL. SHE WOULDN'T BE IN A PLACE LIKE THAT
WHOOSH
YUZURU KUN. I'M GLAD YOUR MOM IS DOING WELL!

I DON'T REMEMER MY MOM AT ALL, BUT
I THINK IT WOULD HAVE BEEN NICE IF SHE WERE LIKE YOUR MOM.
Ehe he
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
SHE'S JUST A FORMER DELINQUENT, THOUGH
A countryside delinquent
THERE'S SOME KIND OF FRUIT HERE!
Snap
Gasp

SPLASH
KYAA!
OUCH
HUH? YUZURU-KUN!? WHY ARE YOU UNDER ME!?
MOVE
I- I'M SORRY
YOUR POCKET IS MOVING SOMEHOW
HUH?
Wriggling
FLOP FLOP FLOP FLOP
A miracle!
...YUZURU-KUN, IT'S A FISH!! IN MY POCKET!!
IT'S JUST AS YOUR MOM SAID, RIGHT?
IT'S SURELY THE POWER OF THE LADYBUG.

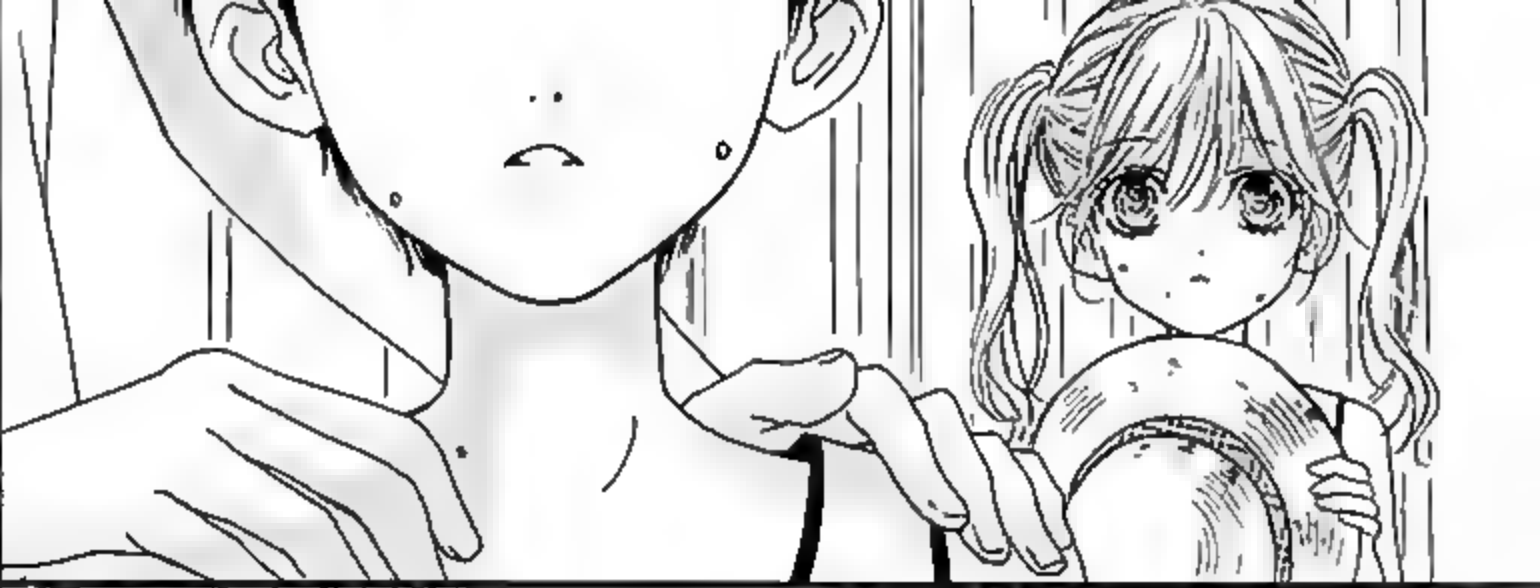
I DOUBT IT.
I WROTE A LETTER TO YOUR MOM AS THANKS FOR THE HAT.
TOMO RROW, I'LL GO TO THE HOSPITAL
SHE HAS CHECKUPS ALL DAY TOMORROW, SO YOU WON'T SEE HER, THOUGH
...
I'M LEAVING TOMOR-ROW NIGHT

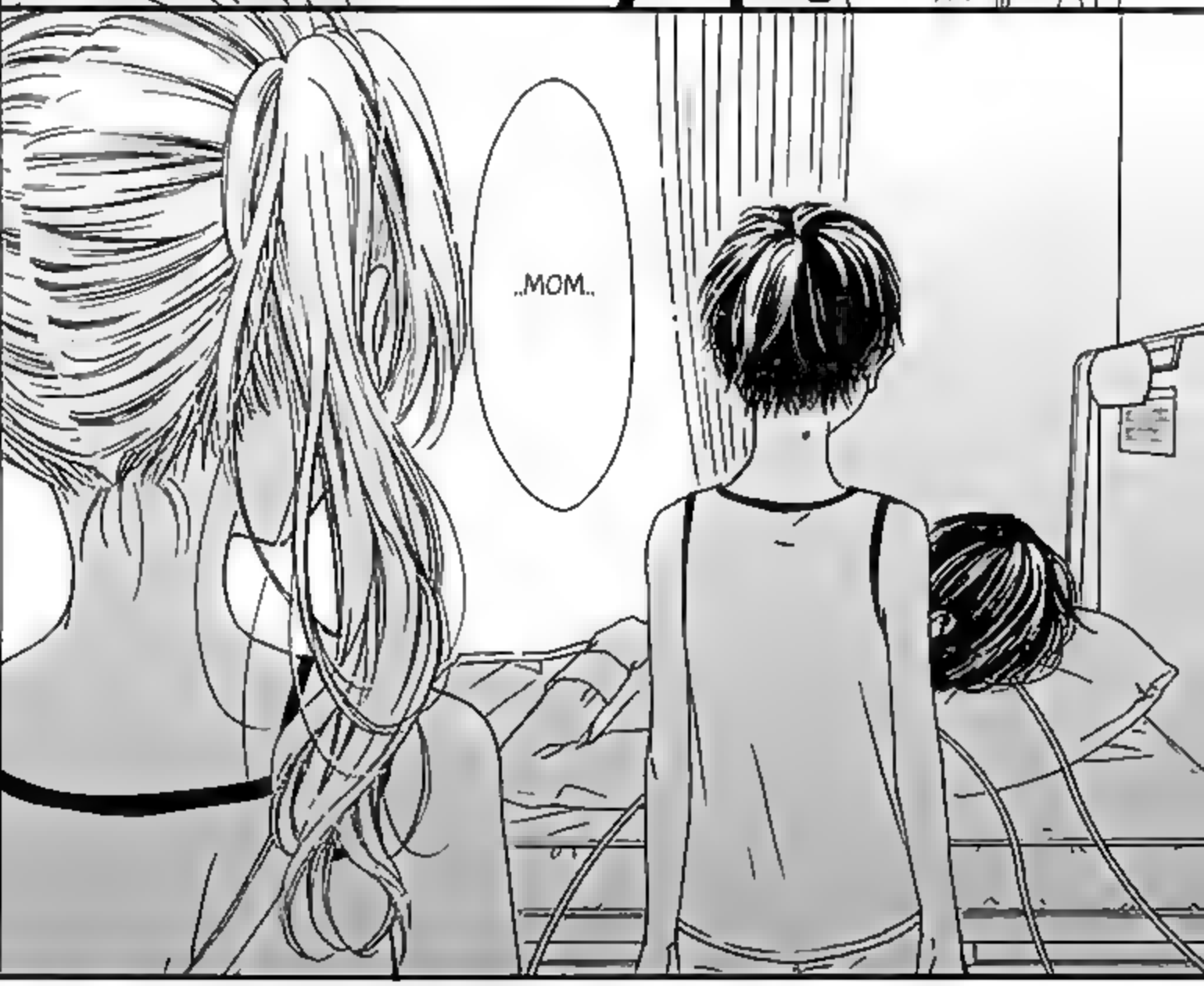
...YOU'RE SLOW.
RUN RUN
Y-YES. I'LL DO MY BEST
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF CHECK-UPS THEY WILL DO
..THEY EXAMINE HER AND SHE'LL HAVE SURGERY IF SHE'S GOTTEN WORSE.
SUR-GERY.
BUT BEING A FORMER DELINQUENT WITH "GUTS", YOUR MOM WILL BE FINE, RIGHT!?
Õ_Ô;;

OF COURSE. SHE WILL.

BEEEEEP

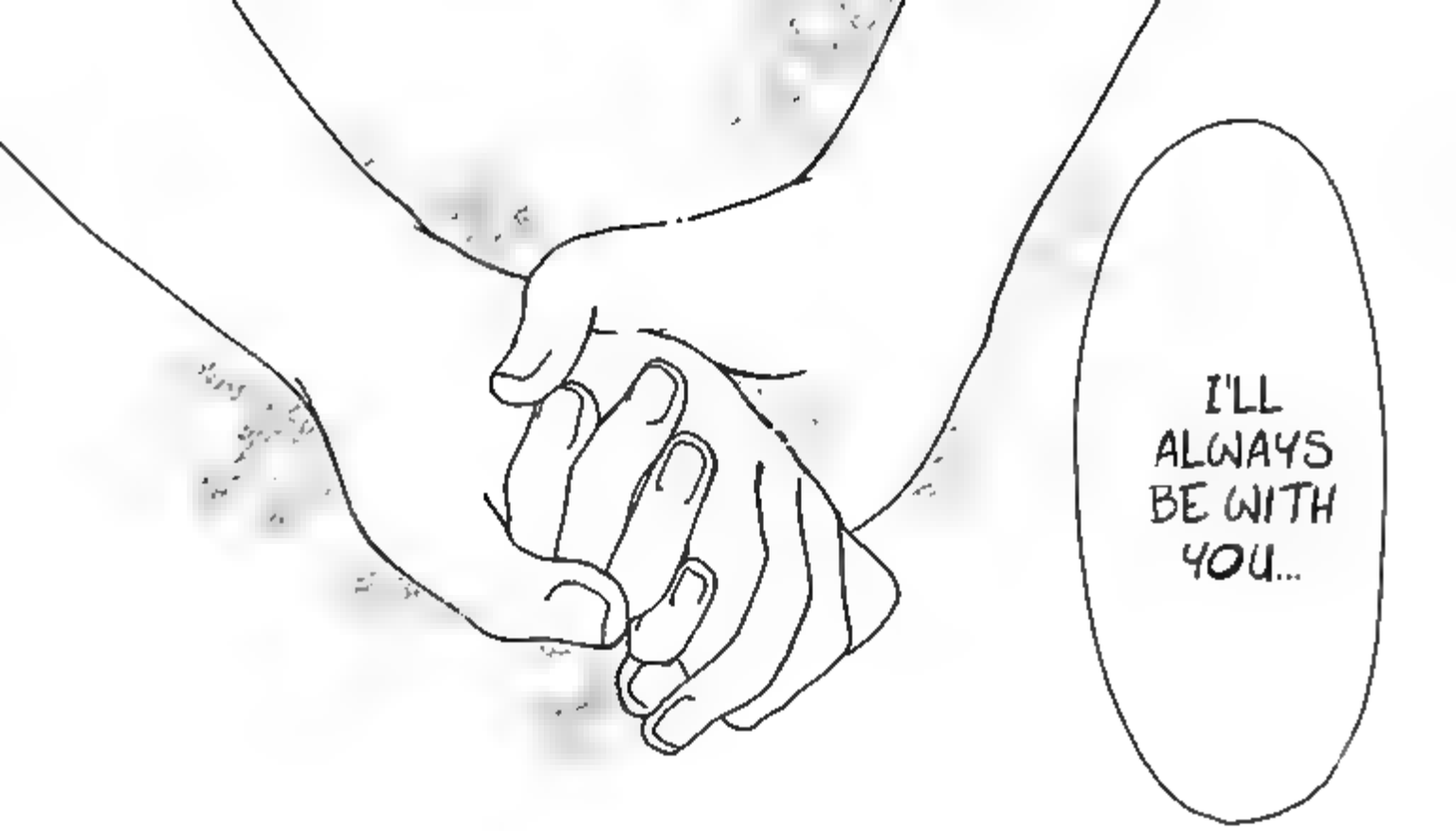
YU




..MOM..

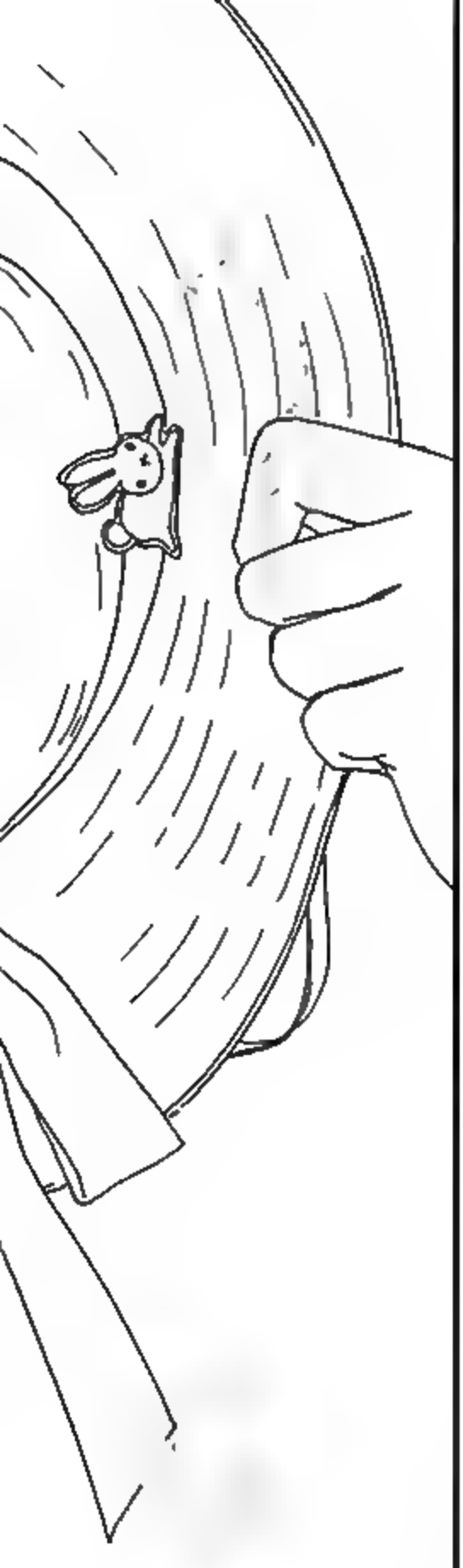
..YUZU-RU-KUN, YOUR HAT.
..I DON'T NEED IT.
THIS ONE IS MINE WITH THE RABBIT.
PLEASE LOOK AT YOURS.
IT'S A LADY-BUG.
..I DON'T NEED IT.
IT'S LAME

YU.
YUZU-RU-KUN.
I UNDER-STAND YOUR FEEL-INGS.
IT'LL BE OKAY.
YUZURU-KUN.
YUZURU-KUN.



At that time, that's what I promised.

Immediately after summer vacation ended, I had to move overseas due to my dad's work.
When I became a junior high student, I returned to Japan.
It was the first time coming by myself, though.



This place without Yuzuru-kun was very lonely

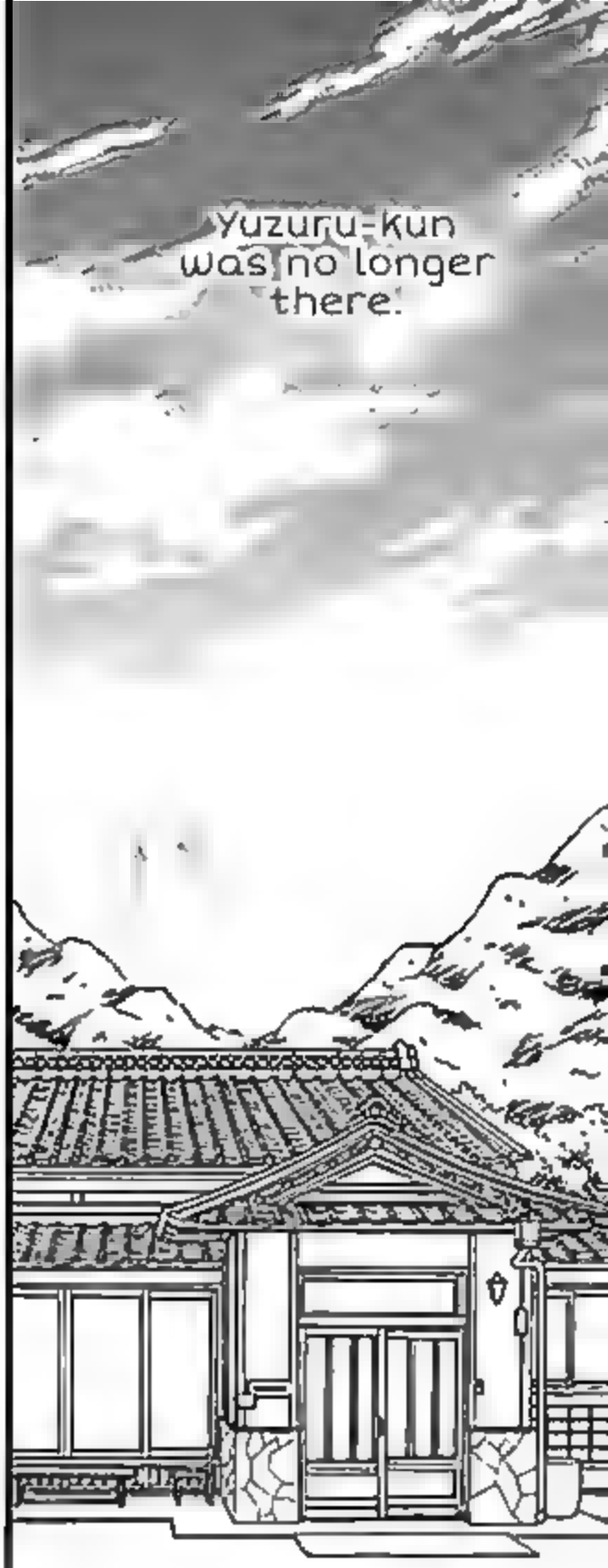
The foot-paths we ran around,

the cold river,

the green of the moun-tains, and the smell of the wind

were just as I remem-bered.

Yuzuru-kun was no longer there.

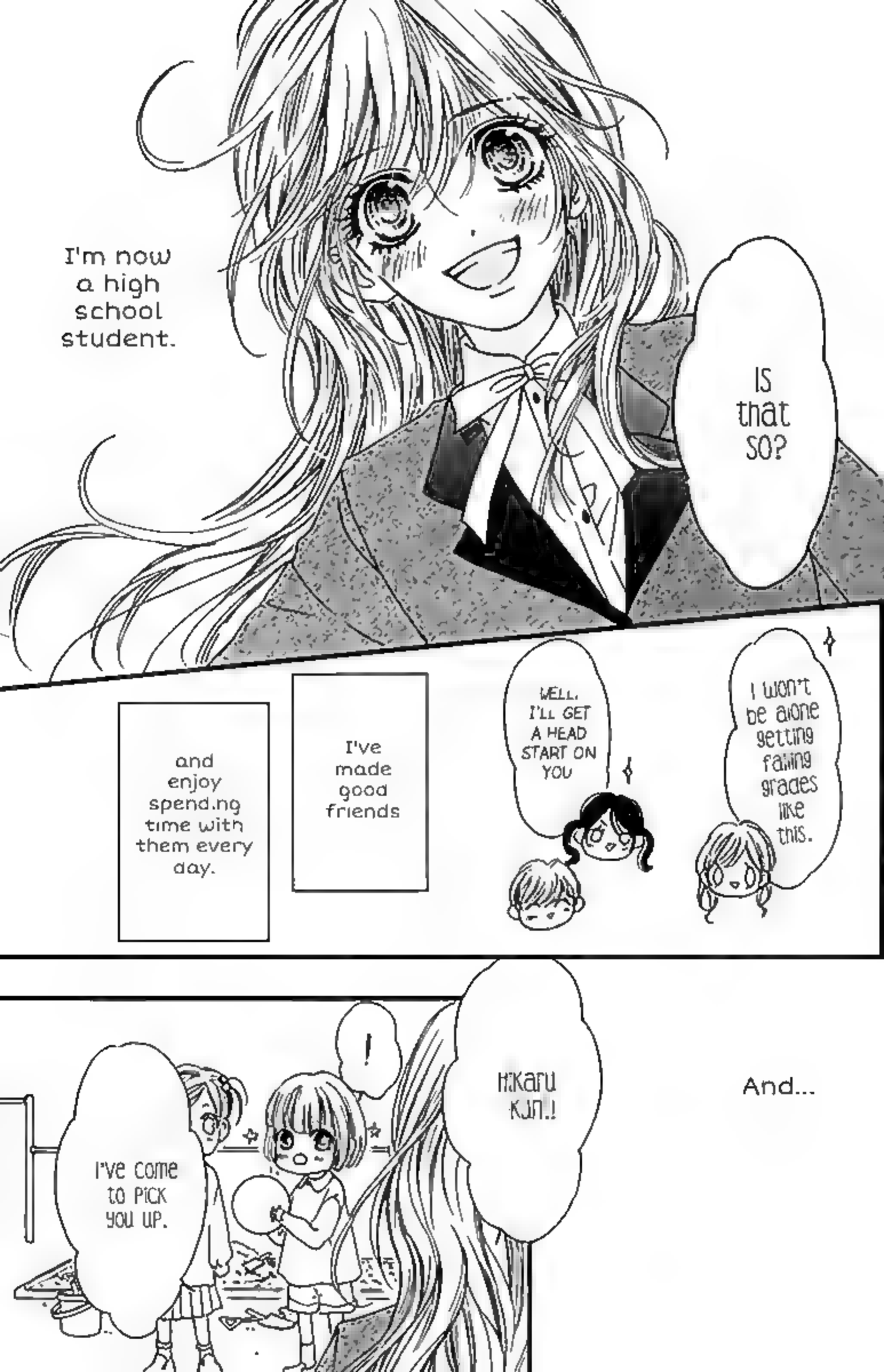


We can no longer go back to that time.

Yuzuru-kun.

Yuzuru-kun.

I have so many things I want to talk to you about.


I'm now a high school student.
IS that SO?
I've made good friends
and enjoy spend.ng time with them every day.
WELL, I'LL GET A HEAD START ON YOU
I won't be alone getting failing grades like this.
And...
Hikaru kun.!
!
I've come to PICK you up.

TODAY I PAINTED A PICTURE OF MOM.
Oh?
My dad got re-marr-ied and with my new mom
I got a new brother who s much younger than me
He's extre-me.y cute.
I LL DRAW YOU. TOO. ONEE CHAN
SQUEEZ
ONEE -CHAN!
This is my cell phone strap.
Ahh
Then, something good might happen.
I FOUND ONE ON OUR FIELD TRIP!!
OH.
A LADY BUG!!
HM?

The ladybug is a symbol of good luck.
In this town that has no mountains, rivers or fields
I could hardly find them anymore.
Hikaru-kun, please go inside the house first.
It's okay, I'll get it.
Rin
I-I'M SORRY I...
in
DROP
AH
When I find a ladybug
RUMMAGE
AH!
RUMMAGE
Is this... it?
ah, it's kind of squishy...

!!

FLOAT

I'M REAL

I always remember you.

Swish

One (on the charm)

Two.

Increased?

I hope that Yuzuru-kun is happy

おたよりください

この漫画家さんにとんでもないハプニングがありましたなどがスタートしました。ぜひ応しくお願いします！

小森みつこ 先生

〒101-8050 東京都千代田区一ツ橋2-5-10 集英社マーガレット編集部気付

http://margaret.shueisha.co.jp からメールもOK！

...YOU MESSING WITH ME, BRAT!?

CRASH

...A fight!?

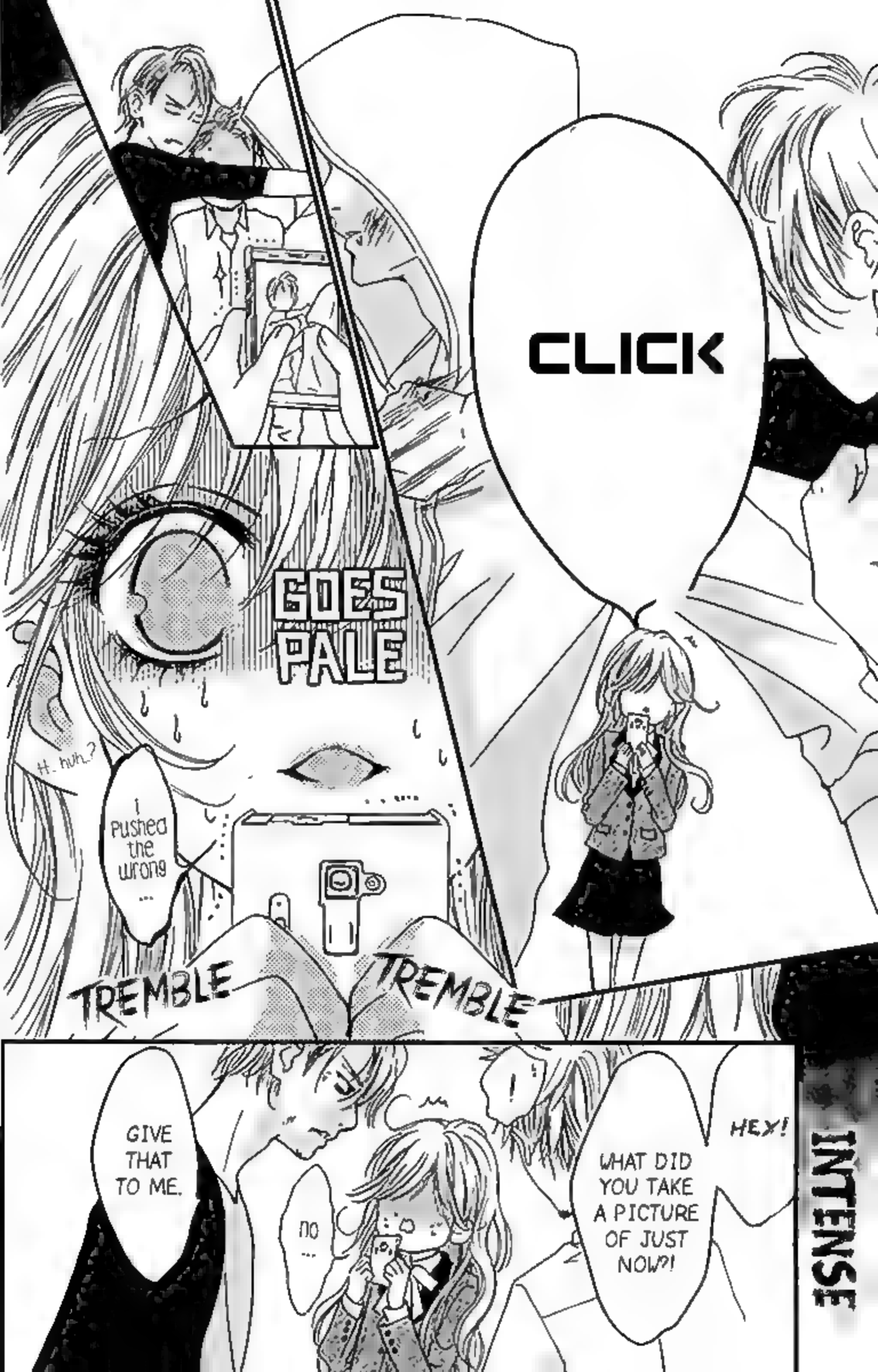
Two to one is... What should I do...? Someone...? Anyone...?

Slow

Ahh my hands are shak...

The Police ...

911


CLICK
GOES PALE
H. huh?
I pushed the wrong ...
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
HEY!
WHAT DID YOU TAKE A PICTURE OF JUST NOW?!
!
no ...
GIVE THAT TO ME.
INTENSE

!
Grab
!
YOUNG GUYS ARE FIGHT ING.
OVER THERE, POLICE OFFICER
CHATTER
What!?
TAKEN ABACK
RUN
Give me back my cell phone!
RUN
...GIVE-

!
They were fighting over there.
I'LL DELETE THE PIC TURE
Gasp
GRAB
CRUNCH
mm...!
uh!

fu
Help me...
Blood.
I'm scared
I'm scared
SINK IN
!

BA-DUMP

...DON'T DO ANYTHING STUPID.
Huh?
What?
Just now...?
Ba-dump
This hand
and this voice.
I don't recognize them, and yet....
Ba-dump
My heart is...

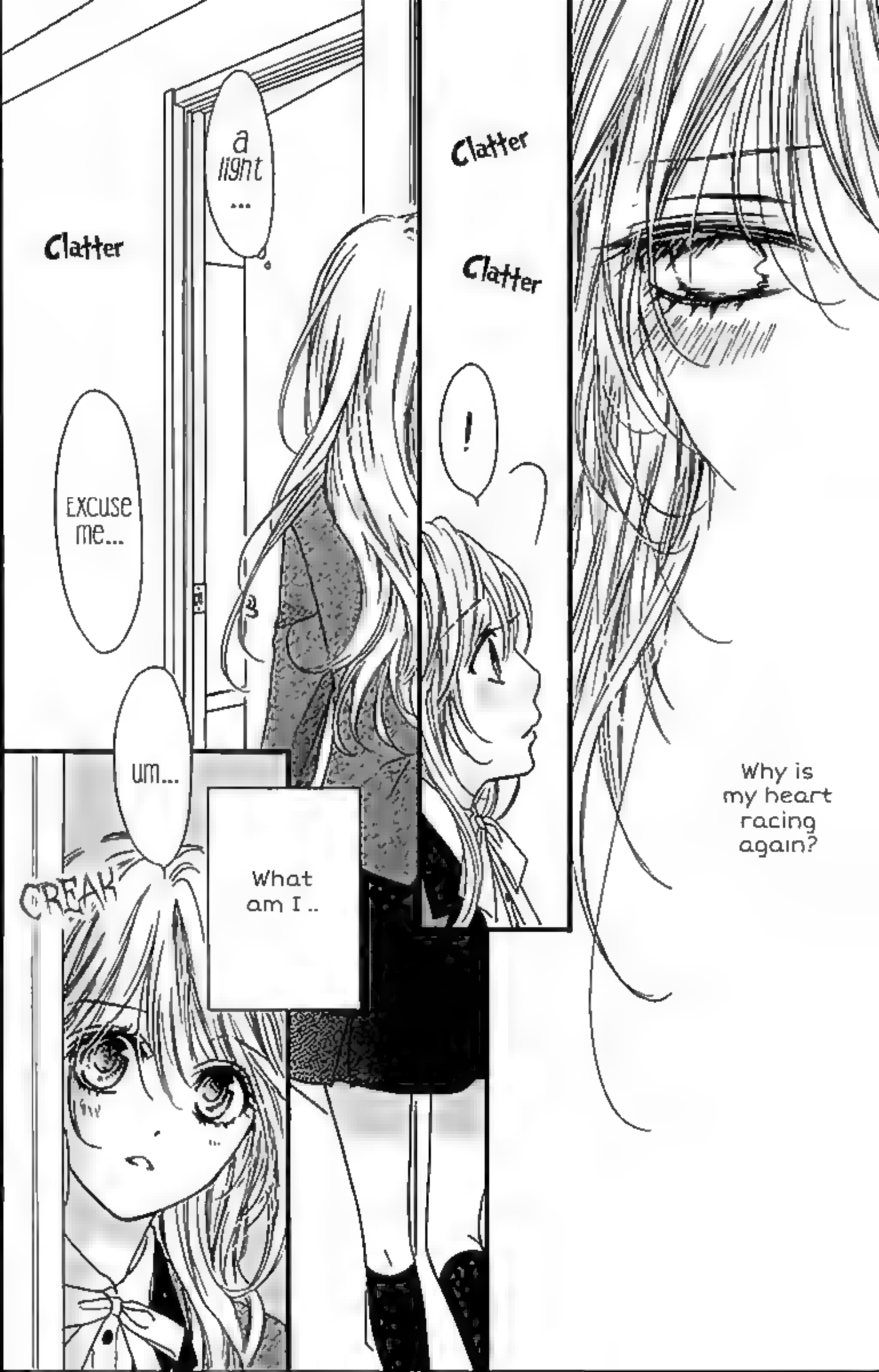
!
..STOP FLIRTING AROUND. BRATS
Why?
YOU KNOW
THIS STILL HASN'T ENDED...
STOP!
HIT!

...GO
HIT
THUD
STUPID! THIS IS REALLY BAD..
YEAH, BUT THIS GIRL..
!
HEY..
RUN RUN RUN

TOUCH
I wonder why I did something like that.

Ding dong
...?
...
Where am I?
DAZED
SIT UP
Earlier ...
Throb
!
Oh, I have a bump-
ouch

Blood... he got hurt...
I guess this is his place...?
This outfit... that guy was wearing it ...
He was rough, so it was scary.
...To think that a ladybug landed on me.
It was completely different
Ba-dump


a light ...
Clatter
Clatter
Clatter
!
EXCUSE me...
um...
CREAK
What am I ..
Why is my heart racing again?

Clatter
...expecting?
...MM...
CREAK

!
..WHAT IS IT?
OH. THERE WAS SOMEONE HERE?
Rattle
BLUSH
....
I'm sorry. That's not it ...
There's nothing between me and ...
HUH?
OH ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT ME?
AHA HA. HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS ARE SO CUTE.

Something's been wrong... with me since earlier.
Lea-ving ...
...
I'm ...
...YOUR CELL PHONE.
Why?
Ba-dump

With this person...
something like this...
When I was small,
my hair was tied up like this...
But...
...don't you remember?
...I'm
Amemiya Hana.

If it were you...
It's Hana...
...

WHO ARE YOU?
HUH... WHAT? IS SHE MIS-TAKEN?
Chuckle
...HOW CRUEL...
STEP STEP STEP
SHUT
Excuse me.
I under-stand... I'm sorry for saying something weird.

I don't care.
His arms that hit people
the color of his blood-stained wound
the sweet voice of that woman
I don't care.

...HEY. THAT GIRL JUST NOW. YOU ACTUALLY
KNOW HER. DON'T YOU?
I'm Amemiya Hana.
I'm always introducing myself.
Please tell me next year that it's been a while, okay?
That guy is...
Are you listening?!!

...not Yuzuru-kun.
...HANA...